



## Maryland Community Health System

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>House Health and Government Operations Committee</b>
<b>Bill:</b>	<b>Senate Bill 440 – Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis in Maryland – Establishment</b>
<b>Hearing Date:</b>	<b>March 22, 2022</b>
<b>Position:</b>	<b>Support with Amendments</b>

Maryland Community Health System supports with amendments *Senate Bill 440 – Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis in Maryland – Establishment*.

The Commission will convene experts to conduct a comprehensive review of Maryland’s health care workforce. This review will help guide near-term and long-term policy initiatives to address the areas of greatest need, including the current behavioral health provider shortage.

We would like to request just two clarifying amendments:

### **Amendment 1:**

We ask for the House to restore the list of Boards involved with the Commission on page 2. The Commission’s work should not be limited to just professions under the Boards of Physicians, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Professional Counselors.

**Amendment 2: Expand focus to community health centers:** On page 4 in line 2, add “community health centers” after “nursing homes”

*Explanation: The evaluation of shortages will only be complete if the Commission includes community health centers, which would include federally qualified health centers and school-based health centers.*

We ask for a favorable report, and we stand ready to assist the Committee in every way possible in this endeavor. If we can be helpful in any way, please let us know by contacting Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net).